

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: BLOCKS AND BLOCK FORMING APPARATUS AND METHOD

The specification of which

a. ☐ is attached hereto

b. ☒ was filed on February 20, 2001 as application serial no. 09/788,836 and was amended on (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and cl, med in international no. filed and as amended on (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. ☒ no such applications have been filed.

b. ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application:

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

(e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lycke, Lawrence E.	Reg. No. 38,540
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Mayfield, Denise L.	Reg. No. 33,732
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,622	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Branch, John W.	Reg. No. 41,633	Mitchem, M. Todd	Reg. No. 40,731
Bremer, Dennis C.	Reg. No. 40,528	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Nichols, A. Shane	Reg. No. 43,836
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
Campbell, Keith	Reg. No. 46,597	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959	Phillips, Bryan K.	Reg. No. 46,990
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Chiapetta, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634	Prendergast, Paul	Reg. No. 46,068
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
Coldren, Richard J.	Reg. No. 44,084	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Dalglish, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579	Roberts, Fred	Reg. No. 34,707
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Samuels, Lisa A.	Reg. No. 43,080
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Spellman, Steven J.	Reg. No. 45,124
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Tuchman, Ido	Reg. No. 45,924
Harrison, Kevin C.	Reg. No. 46,759	Tunheim, Marcia A.	Reg. No. 42,189
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Weaver, Karrie G.	Reg. No. 43,245
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Karjeker, Shaukat	Reg. No. 34,049	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Whitaker, John E.	Reg. No. 42,222
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 41,376
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Kowalchuk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
Kowalchuk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946	Wu, Tong	Reg. No. 43,361
Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443	Xu, Min S.	Reg. No. 39,536
Leon, Andrew J.	Reg. No. 46,869	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.




Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903



I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		GRESSER	MICHAEL	J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		PRIOR LAKE	MINNESOTA	USA
1	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		20490 BLAKE RIDGE DRIVE	PRIOR LAKE	MINNESOTA 55372/USA
Signature of Inventor 201:			Date: May 01, 01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		HAMILTON	STANLEY	W.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		PLYMOUTH	MINNESOTA	USA
2	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		2825 GARLAND LANE	PLYMOUTH	MINNESOTA 55447/USA
Signature of Inventor 202: Stanley W. Hamilton			Date: 5/1/01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		CARTER	CHARLES	E.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		INVER GROVE HEIGHTS	MINNESOTA	USA
3	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		10620 AMERY COURT	INVER GROVE HEIGHTS	MINNESOTA 55077/USA
Signature of Inventor 203: Charles E. Carter			Date: 5/1/01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		RUIKKA	ANDERS	M.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		ZIMMERMAN	MINNESOTA	SWEDEN
4	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		14245 265TH AVENUE NW	ZIMMERMAN	MINNESOTA 55398/USA
Signature of Inventor 204: Anders Rikka			Date: 5-18-01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		BRION	THOMAS	J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		MONTICELLO	MINNESOTA	USA
5	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		339 EAST 4TH STREET	MONTICELLO	MINNESOTA 55362/USA
Signature of Inventor 205: Thomas J. Brion			Date: 5/18/01	

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name EBERT	First Given Name LAWRENCE	Second Given Name J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City ZIMMERMAN	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
6	Mailing Address	Address 13157 274TH AVENUE NW	City ZIMMERMAN	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55398/USA
Signature of Inventor 206: 			Date: 5/18/01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name BARTHEL	First Given Name JAMES	Second Given Name M.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City COON RAPIDS	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
7	Mailing Address	Address 9280 UNIVERSITY AVENUE NW, #142	City COON RAPIDS	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55448/USA
Signature of Inventor 207: 			Date: 5-20-01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name BARRON	First Given Name MATHEW	Second Given Name A.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City EAGAN	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
8	Mailing Address	Address 2272 WALL STREET	City EAGAN	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55122/USA
Signature of Inventor 208: 			Date: 05-01-01	